

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2014

Members in Attendance: Molly Flueckiger, Heidi Hample, Rachel Buonopane, Susan James, Burt Pusch, Michael Rademacher, John Thompson, Maureen St. Hilaire

Members Absent: Kerrie Fallon

Others Present: Jack Jones/ADA Coordinator, Peter Nobile(Architect with LDA Architects and Interior), Barbara Cutler (former Commission member, Arlington resident)

Meeting began at 4:10 pm

1. Welcome and Introduction

2. Public Comments

- None today

3. Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB) Variance Application Review

- Topic: First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington renovations (630 Mass Ave)
- Presenter: Peter Nobile
- History of church building and structure presented to group
- Different additions have been made through the years, leaving some areas inaccessible
- Plans for the renovations are focused on making location more accessible to all
- A main entry way (accessible) with a 4 stop elevator to be installed (basement, 2 level 1st floor, 2nd floor)
- Sloping floors to be put in to help with multilevel floors that currently do not match up and requires steps
- Will bring handrails and door hardware up to code in majority of areas
- Will be implementing new bathrooms with accessible toilet areas
- Reports that project is trying for better than 'minimal' compliance
- Will utilize contrasting colors on differing surfaces to assist with visually impaired
- Ramp will be added in back for second accessible entrance and also a 3rd at the rear of the sanctuary
- Stairways will be 2 hour fire rated (for emergency evacuation during fires)
- *Variance request includes*
- Some hardware will not be replaced (in areas that will not be made accessible during this project)
- Kitchen is not fully accessible
- Mezzanine (balcony) in sanctuary is not accessible
- ***Plan is for these areas to be made accessible at some point in the future (reportedly within 10 years)***

- *Planning for June/July meeting with MAAB and to begin project this summer*
- *Suggestion made to architect regarding the church developing a fire plan for evacuation with the fire department*

4. ADA Coordinator Report

- Resident under 60 years old requesting transportation of senior van. The Senior Van is itemized for clients of 60 years and older. There are other modes of transportation available for under 60 year old disabled residents. Resident was informed of some options including the RIDE. Town social worker to follow up with resident to assist per report.
- Carol Kowalski (planning dept) asking for opinions regarding the Town's Transportation Study. Molly and Jack provided feedback and are working on a draft.
- Moira Hennessey from Mass Relay called to request giving a presentation to the Commission regarding Relay equipment. Commission members discussed whether it would be more effective to have her present at a time that Town workers and members could better attend vs presenting at monthly Commission Meeting. Molly to follow up with Moira to better understand purpose of presentation, to assist with best outreach to our community.
- MaryAnn Sullivan (Board of Selectmen) called requesting opinion regarding permit request for benches to be placed in front of Retro Burger. Jack provided AAB and ADA guidelines. BOS have made the decision regarding this matter as of this meeting date. *Follow regarding this matter is pending.*
- Marie Krepelka provided an application for Town Day Both. Town day on 9/13/14 with rain date of 9/20/14. 8 members present and 8 members voted yes to our participation in Town Day this year. *Heidi will head a subcommittee regarding Town Day.*
- Vinny Kilcommons of DPW provided a list of curb cuts to be installed this FY. 3 curb cuts were added at Drake Village

Mill St @ Summer

Mill St @ Millbrook Dr.

Mill St. @ #17 Driveway

Summer @ Brookdale

Summer @ Mystic

Summer @ Edgedale

Summer @ Victoria

Winslow @ Mystic

Winslow @ Prescott

Winslow @ Russell Ter

Winslow @ AHA

Winslow @ Mystic

North Union @ Freemont

Hamilton Rd. (remove curb)

Columbia @ Stowecroft

Webcowet @ Orchard

Webcowet @ Sherborn

Hayes @Mystic Lake Dr.

Hayes @ Maynard St.

Mass Ave. @ Water St

Mass Ave @ Spengler

Irving St @ Academy

Ridge St @ Edgehill

- Danny Derosa, a general contractor, called to ask for information regarding down and cross slope ramp requirements of AAB and ADA. Information provided to him by Jack.
- Visitor center- being placed near bike path entrance near the center. Needs some work to be made accessible
- Commission and ADA coordinator have not heard back from Greg Ames of Mass Rehab regarding annual Job Fair

5. Project Updates

• FY 15 Curb cuts

- Recommended list distributed to the group, reviewed and comments given

• Accessible Icon Project

- Will be discussed at next meeting, *Rachel to follow up with Jeff Lafata to obtain contact info for Burlington representatives coordinating efforts in Burlington*

• True Story Theatre

- Susan presenting to group today, theatre group performs and creates performances based on real life situations and struggles
- Suggesting Commission work to coordinate performance based on stigma due to disability
- Distributed handout with upcoming local performances and invite Commission members to attend
- Discussion of obtaining access to community room vs other locations, obtaining funding for the project
- Will continue with discussion and development to future meetings

• Gibbs School Parking

- Maureen went to assess situation and discuss with staff from Kelleher Center
- Reports that no vans are parking in accessible parking spaces
- The vans line up along the entrance to transport people with disabilities from various programs at the Gibbs School
- Maureen did receive report that the employee area bathrooms are not accessible, discussed further during the meeting. Reportedly accessible employee bathrooms are not required if a main accessible bathroom is available.

• Transportation Survey

- Handout issued regarding feedback given by Molly about the survey

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• Arlington Heights Accessible parking space request

- Project sent out to be performed

- **Arlington Center parking study**
- Master plan so far has not included accessible parking into transportation section
- Discussion of inviting Carol Kowolski to a meeting regarding development of a policy regarding accessible parking

- **20 Academy St/27 Maple St (Senior Center and extension of town offices)**
Accessibility issues
- Repair of senior center lot/walkways, in first design phase
- State of MA not renewing their lease here because the accessibility is out of compliance at this building location
- Accessible space to be moved to a proper grade location

- 6. Approve Meeting Minutes**
- Subject put on for next meeting agenda
- *At next meeting will need to review both April and May meeting minutes for approval*

- 7. New Business and Announcements**
- **Mass DOT Request for accessible meeting location review**
- Not discussed due to time constraints
- **State Legislation- Barbara Cutler shared information regarding Assisted Suicide Bill and her concerns for disabled population in relation to the bill**
- Wanted to keep the issue in the forefront and bring to Commission's attention
- Commission members would like and equal (both sides) presentation, if we as a commission were to take a stance on the bill

Handouts Issued to Commission Members during Meeting

Today's meeting agenda

Transportation Survey feedback from Molly

Parking regulations (for Arlington Ctr project)

Commission presentation to Town Meeting

Policy proposal for transportation reimbursement for meetings

Mass DOT- letter requesting accessible location for meetings

Curb cut lists (current and projected)

Map of visitor center location

ADA coordinator's report

Information on Assisted suicide bill (issued by Barbara Cutler)

Meeting adjourned 6:20 pm

Next Meeting set June 18, 2014